GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3224
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2015
Activities of FHEL
Kashyap Shri Virender

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fresh and Healthy Enterprises Limited (FHEL) is engaged in lifting the fruits and vegetables through Railways from the farmers/fruit growers etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its activities in the country;

(c) whether the said unit is also engaged in the activities in Himachal Pradesh for lifting of apples and other fruits and vegetables; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the said organization has benefited the fruit growers of Himachal Pradesh and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) FHEL lifts fruits from farmers / fruit growers directly and not through Railways.

(b) FHEL is engaged in procurement of apples in Himachal Pradesh directly from farm-gate of the farmers since 2006. Apples are then transported to its Controlled Atmosphere (CA) Store located in Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (HSIIDC) Industrial Estate, Rai, Sonepat, Haryana. The stored fruit is thus amenable to marketing not only during season but also during off-season throughout the country.

(c) Yes, Madam. The company has been procuring apples direct from farm gate of farmers in Himachal Pradesh.
Since 2006, FHEL has procured 68130.36 Metric Tonnes of apple valued for ` 272.20 Crores directly from more than 1000 farmers of Himachal Pradesh.

(d) Yes, Madam. Apple growers have benefited on account of procurements made at remunerative prices from their door step by FHEL. The hand-holding role discharged by FHEL consistently over the past 9 years has also resulted in established private players having to compete amongst themselves and thereby offering better prices to apple growers at their farm gate.
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